



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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January 12, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION:
WHITTIER NARROWS BEAUTIFICATION AND LANDSCAPE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT AND APPROVE PROJECT BUDGET
CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 77518
(FIRST DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

Approval of recommended actions will authorize the Department of Parks and Recreation to proceed with the Whittier Narrows Beautification and Landscape Improvement Project.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Find the proposed project categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to Sections 15301, 15302, and 15304 of the State California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines, and Classes 1, 2, and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987.
2. Establish the Capital Project No. 77518, approve scope of work and the project budget of \$330,000 for the Whittier Narrows Beautification and Landscape Improvements Project.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation or his designee to carry out the project through the Board-approved Agreement for Employment of At-Risk Youth for as-needed landscaping, maintenance and minor improvements by and between the Department of Parks and Recreation and the San Gabriel Valley Conservation and Service Corps, Contract Number 10304 executed on March 3, 2009.

PURPOSE /JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allow the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to complete the Whittier Narrows Beautification and Landscape Improvement Project located at 823 Lexington, Gallatin Road, South El Monte, California 91733. Project work is restricted to the park perimeter, areas between Rosemead and Santa Anita on both north and south sides of the 60 freeway, the entrance to Area "B", and the Santa Anita parking lot.

The proposed project consists of installation of new plants, trees, shrubs, landscape features, and irrigation components specifically designed for water efficiency that also enhances the aesthetic value of the park for park patrons and passersby.

The project will be managed and administered by the Department and the construction will be complete by the San Gabriel Valley Conservation and Service Corps. The schedule for completion is as shown in the Attachment I.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The recommended actions meet the Board approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1), by completing the work in the most efficient and cost effective manner, and Children, Family, and Adult Well-Being (Goal 2), by providing affordable, accessible, educational, and cultural opportunities at Whittier Narrows Recreation Area.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The total project cost estimate of \$330,000 includes \$318,000 for the construction contract and change orders, \$10,000 for other project related expenditures, and \$2,000 for County services. The Project Schedule and Budget Summary are included in Attachment I.

Sufficient appropriation is available in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Capital Projects Budget under C.P. No. 77518 to fund the project. The project is funded by the Vehicle License Fee Gap Loan Fund (VLF).

Operating Budget Impact

The Department does not anticipate any one-time costs resulting from the recommended actions. However, there is a possibility of a slight increase in ongoing costs to water but should be fully offset with the Department's ongoing efforts in water efficiency. If otherwise, the Department will absorb these costs within its existing budget.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Whittier Narrows Beautification and Landscape Improvement Project is in compliance with terms and conditions of the Department's long-term operating lease agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers (U.S. ACE).

Pursuant to your Board's Civic Art Policy as revised on November 5, 2008, the proposed project is exempt from the Civic Art Fee as the eligible project cost is less than \$500,000.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved this Board Letter as to form.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

Whittier Narrows Recreation Area (WNRA) is a federal facility under the jurisdiction of the U.S. ACE and is operated and maintained by the Department. As a federal facility, all projects at WNRA must comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The U.S. ACE has determined that the project is in compliance with NEPA and that the project, when considered individually and cumulatively, does not have significant effects on the quality of human environment.

The proposed project is categorically exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) according to Sections 15301, 15302, and 15304 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1, 2, and 4 of the Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines adopted by your Board on November 17, 1987, because the proposed project involves replacement or reconstruction of existing utility systems and facilities, including installation of new plants, landscape features, and irrigation components.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

The proposed project will be implemented using the San Gabriel Valley Conservation and Service Corps, a Community Conservation Corps, as defined under Section 14507.5 of the State of California Public Resources Code. The San Gabriel Valley Conservation and Services Corps is currently under contract with the Department, contract number 10304. The project will be managed by the Construction Division of Regional Facilities Agency.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Approval of these actions will reflect a positive impact on the park's aesthetics and provide enhancement to the fencing along the perimeter areas of the park. Approval of these actions will have no impact to current services and programs.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Projects Division; and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,


WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:RG:SK
DJT:RB:zu

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Acting County Counsel
Department of Parks and Recreation
Office of Affirmative Action and Compliance

**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION:
WHITTIER NARROWS BEAUTIFICATION AND LANDSCAPE
IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
ESTABLISH CAPITAL PROJECT AND APPROVE PROJECT BUDGET
CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 77518**

I. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Project Activity	Scheduled Completion Date
Award Design Contract	NA
Execute Design Contract	NA
Construction Documents	2/15/09
Jurisdictional Approvals	NA
Award Contract to SGV Conservation Corp.	2/28/10
Start Construction	3/15/10
Substantial Completion	8/31/10
Project Acceptance	9/30/10

II. PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY

Project Activity	Proposed Budget
Land Acquisition	\$ 0
Construction	
Low Bid Construction Contract	\$ 0
Contract with Conservation Corps.	302,000
Change Orders	16,000
Departmental Crafts	0
Youth Employment	0
Construction Consultants	0
Telecomm Equip – Affixed to Building	0
Civic Arts	0
Subtotal	0
	\$ 318,000
Programming/Development	\$ 0
Plans and Specifications*	\$ 0
Consultant Services	
Site Planning	\$ 0
Hazardous Materials	0
Geotech/Soils Report and Soils Testing	0
Material Testing	0
Cost Estimating	0
Topographic Surveys	0
Construction Management	0
Construction Administration	0
Environmental	0
Move Management	0
Equipment Planning	0
Construction/Change Order	0
Other:	0
Subtotal	\$ 0
Miscellaneous Expenditures	\$ 10,000
Jurisdictional Review/Plan Check/Permit	\$ 0
County Services	
Code Compliance Inspection	\$ 0
Quality Control Inspection	0
Design Review	0
Design Services	0
Contract Administration	0
Project Management	0
Project Management Support Services	0
ISD Job Order Contract Management	0
DPW Job Order Contract Management	0
ISD ITS Communications	0
Project Security	0
Project Technical Support	0
Office of Affirmative Action	2,000
County Counsel	0
Subtotal	\$ 2,000
TOTAL	\$330,000